HIS

MAIESTIES MESSAGE

To BOTH HOVSES OF PARLIAMENT, *April*, 28. 1642.

Concerning his Refusall to passe the Bill for the Militia.

TOGETHER

WITH HIS MAJESTIES SECOND Message to the Parliament, concerning Sir *Iohn Hotham's* Refusall to give his Majestie Entrance into his Towne of *Hull*.

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Imprinted at London, for H. Bluron, 1642.

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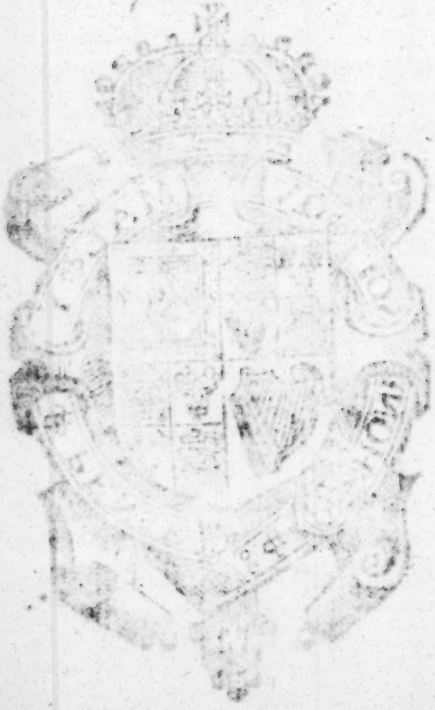

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His Majesties Message to both Houses of Parliament, April 28.

WE have with great Deliberation and Patience weighed and considered (it concerning Us much to weigh the consequences of every Law before We passe it) your Bill lately sent to Us for the settling of the Militia, and though it hath not bin usuall to give any reason for our refusall to passe any Bill (it being absolutely in our power to passe, or not passe any Act sent unto Us by you, if we conceive it prejudiciall to Ourselfe, or inconvenient for Our subjects, for whom we are trusted, and must one day give an account) yet in this businesse of the Militia, which being misunderstood amongst our good subjects, hath bin used as an Argument as if we were not vigilant enough for the publike safety: and lest we should be thought lesse constant in our Resolutions, and this Bill to be the same we sent unto you; we have thought fit to give you, and all the world particular satisfaction why we cannot, ought not, must not passe this Bill, being the first publike Bill, to Our remembrance, we have refused this Parliament. And therefore we must complain, That having expressed our selfe so clearly & particularly in this point, you should presse any thing upon us, which you could not but foresee that we must refuse, except we deparred from those Resolutions, grounded upon so much reason, we had so earnestly before acquainted you with, & against which you have not given one Argument to satisfie our judgment. We are pleased that you have declined the unwarrantable course of your Ordinance (to the which we are confident Our good subjects would never have

yelded consent) and chosen this only right way of imposing on our people, which we have allowed, but for the reason hereafter mentioned.

We refused to consent to your Ordinance, as for other things, so for that the power was put into the persons nominated therein by direction of both Houses of Parliament, excluding us from any power in the disposition or Execution of it together with you, who then advised you for many reasons that a Bill should be prepared, and after in our answer of the 26 of March last to the Petition of both Houses, We told you if such a Bill should be prepared with that due regard to us, and care of our People in the limitation of the power and other Circumstances, We should recede from nothing we formerly expressed. What passed (enough to have discouraged Us from being further sollicitous in that argument) after our full and gracious answers, we are content to forget. When we resolved of our Journey into Ireland (so that by reason of Our absence there might be no want of setling that power, besides complying with your Fears) We sent, together with a Message of that our purpose, a Bill for the setling that power for a year, hoping in that time to return to you, and being sure that in much lesse time you might do the businesse for which you seemed at first to desire this, which was, That you might seriously consider our message of the 20. of Jan. last. By that Bill we consented to those names you proposed in your Ordinance, and in the limitation of the power provided that Our selfe should not be able to execute any thing but by your advice, and when we should be out of the Kingdome, the sole Execution to be in you, with many other things of so arbitrary and uncircumscribed a Power, that We should not have consented to, but with reference to the absence of Our own Person out of the Kingdome, and thought it the more sufferable in respect the time was

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but for a year. Whether this be the Bill you have now sent. As to passe, let all the World judge.

You have by this Bill now tendred to Us, without taking notice of Us, put the power of the whole kingdome, the Life and Liberties of the Subjects of all degrees and qualities, into the hands of particular men for two yeers. Can you imagine we will trust such an absolute Power in the hands of particular Persons, which we refused to commit to both Houses of Parliament? Nay, is not the power it self too absolute, to be unlimitted to be committed into any private hands? Hath not Sir John Hotham's high Insolency shewed Us what Wee may expect from an exorbitant Legall Power, when he, by a power not warranted by Law, dares venture upon a Treasonable disobedience? But we would willingly know (and indeed such an account in ordinary Civility we might have expected) why we are by this Act absolutely excluded from any power or authority in the execution of this Militia. Sure your Fears and Jealousies are of such a Nature, as are capable of no other remedy, then by leaving us no power in a point of the greatest importance, in which God & the Law hath trusted us solely, & which we were contented to share with you by Our Bill, by putting it and a greater into the hands of particular subjects. What would all Christian Princes think of us, after we had passed such a Bill? How would they value Our Sovereignty? and yet sure Our Reputation with forreign Princes, is some ground of your security. Nay, wee are confident, by that time you have throly considered the possible consequence of the bill upon your selves and the rest of Our good Subjects, you and they will give us thanks for not consenting to it, finding their condition had it passed not to have bin so pleasing unto them. We hope this animadversion will be no breach of your priviledges in this throng of businesse, & distemper of affections:

cious: Tis possible, second thoughts may present somewhat to your considerations which escaped you before.

Wee passed this Parliament at your intreaty a Bill concerning the Captives at Argier, and waved many Objections of Our owne to the contrary, upon Information, that the businesse had been many months considered by you, whether it prove suitable to your intentions, or whether you have not by some private Orders suspended that Act of Parliament, upon view of the mistakings, you best know: As likewise what other great Alterations you have made in other Bills passed this Sessions. Wee cannot passe over the putting thier names out of this Bill whom before you recommended to Us in your Ordinance, it seemes not thinking fit to trust those who would obey no Guide but the Law of the Land (We imahine you would not wish We should in Our estimation of others follow that your Rule) and the leaving out by speciall providence the present Lord Maior of London, as a person in your disfavour, whereas Wee must tell you, his Demeanour hath beene such that the City, and the whole Kingdome is beholding to him for his Example.

To conclude, We doe not finde Our selfe possessed of such an excesse of Power, that it is fit to transferre, or consent it should be in other persons (as is directed by this Bill) And therefore We shall rely upon that Royall Right and Jurisdiction which God and the law hath given Us for the suppressing of Rebellion, and resisting Forreigne Invasion, which hath preserved this Kingdome in the time of all Our Ancestors, and which Wee doubt not, but We shall be able to execute, And not more for Our owne Honour and Right, then for the liberty and Safety of our People, We cannot consent to passe this Bill.

His *Maieſties* ſecond Meſſage to the Parliament, concerning Sir *Iohn Hothams* Refuſall to give his Majeſty Entrance into his *Towne of Hull.*

WEE are ſo much concerned, in the undutifull affront (an indignitie all our good Subjects muſt diſdaine in our behalfe) Wee received from Sir *Iohn Hotham* at *Hull*, that wee are impatient till we receive Juſtice from you; and are compelled to call againe for an Anſwer, being confident (however you would be ſo carefull, (though without Our conſent) to put a Garriſon into that Our Towne, to ſecure it and Our Magazine againſt any attempt of the Papiſts), that you never intended to diſpoſe and maintaine it againſt Vs your Soveraign: Therefore we require you forthwith (for the buſineſſe will admit no delay) That you take ſome ſpeedy courſe, that our ſaid Towne and Magazine be immediately delivered up unto Vs, and that ſuch ſevere exemplary proceedings be againſt thoſe perſons (who have offered Vs this unſupportable affront and injury) as by the Law is provided: And till this be done, Wee ſhall intend no buſineſſe whatſoever (other then the buſineſſe of *Ireland*)

For

For if wee are brought into a Condition ſo much worſe then any of our Subjects, that whilſt you all enjoy your Priviledges, and may not have your Poſſeſſions diſturbed, or your Titles queſtioned, VVee only may bee ſpoiled, throwne out of our Townes, and our Goods taken from us; 'tis time to examine how VVe have loſt thoſe Priviledges, and to try all poſſible wayes, by the helpe of God, the Law of the Land, and the affection of Our good Subjects, to recover them, and vindicate our ſelfe from thoſe Injuris. And if we ſhall miſcarry herein, We ſhall be the firſt Prince of this Kingdome that hath done ſo; having no other end, but to de-
The true Proteſtant Profeſsion, The Law of the Land and *The Liberty of the Subiect*: And God ſo deale with Vs, as we continue in thoſe Reſolutions.

FINIS.